Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 APR 2005 10/532702 ARGM-110US

ABSTRACT

Herein disclosed is a certification system including a plurality of storage devices each storing therein identification information and a certification apparatus including certification unit for certifying whether or not each of the storage devices is an authorized device authorized to use components mounted on a vehicle. The storage devices include an authorized storage device to be certified as being the authorized device, and a master storage device to be used to certify the authorized storage device as being the authorized device. The certification apparatus includes an obtaining unit for obtaining the identification information stored in each of the storage devices, a storage unit for storing therein information, and a storage control unit for controlling the storage unit to have the storage unit store therein the information. The certification unit is operative to certify whether or not each of the storage devices is the authorized device on the basis of the identification information of each of the storage devices obtained by the obtaining unit and the information stored in the storage unit, and the certification unit is operative to certify that the master storage device is not the authorized device under the condition that the storage unit has already stored therein the identification information of the one of the authorized storage devices, and the storage control unit is operative to control the storage unit to have the storage unit store therein the identification information of the authorized storage device obtained by the obtaining unit only under the condition that the certification unit certifies the master storage device as being the authorized device.